

Wichita Daily Eagle

THE WICHITA EAGLE

They Will Use a Balloon to Reach the Pole.

PLAN OF FRENCH SCIENTISTS.

An Arctic Expedition from Which Great Results Are Expected—The Air Ship Which Is to Solve the Problem of the Ages—Previous Disasters.

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What is at the north pole—land, ice or open water? To solve this problem many daring men have lost their lives, and now two ingenious Frenchmen propose to try the solution by a new process. They have secured the money, perfected their plan and set the laborers to work on the machinery, and now announce that they will start for the pole early in May, 1892.

In strictness of language their plan is not new, but is a new application of an old



THE BALLOON EN ROUTE.

plan—by balloon—but their balloon and attachments are so very ingenious that scientific men say their plan appears feasible, and much may be discovered, even though they do not reach the desired goal.

The projectors are M. Besancon, aeronaut, and Gustav Heemst, astronomer, both active members of the French school of aerial navigation. Professor Silbermann in 1870 and Professor Siebel in 1874 presented elaborate calculations showing that it was theoretically possible to reach the pole by balloon, but the present projectors have adopted plans different from those of either.

Their balloon is to be a perfect sphere with a diameter of nearly 100 feet, and containing about 30,000 cubic yards, and this is to be inflated with pure hydrogen gas, which will have a lifting power of 16,000 kilograms (or 35,000 pounds). The material is two thicknesses of the finest Chinese silk, varnished with a new preparation of their own invention, which will, they think, render it absolutely safe. So far the design is old, but they will have a smaller balloon inside of the large one, cigar shaped in its ordinary form, but with flexible sides; and to fill this they will have a small generator in the car below, and with it an automatic arrangement registering every variation in the force of the gas. As this smaller interior balloon can be expanded and contracted at will, they expect by it to correct all the deviations of the larger globe.

The deviations are calculated upon the established facts that, for each rise of 2,300 feet or thereabout, the ratio of the air increases sufficiently to nullify one-tenth of the lifting power of the gas, and many minor variations must be expected from changes of temperature. In addition twenty little globes, or balloons, will be attached to the rim of the car, which can be filled at will. The car is to be a wonderfully complete structure, capable of accommodating five men and eight dogs, with provisions for a month, and water casks, which are to be prevented from freezing by chemical coating. To it are to be attached a sled, a boat, guide rope and other necessary articles, and in it are to be photographs and other scientific apparatus.

These particulars indicate the plan. Arrived on the southern border of one of those great ice cliffs, or breaks in the ice showing open water, which no explorer have been able to pass, they will form a camp and set their balloons in order. Secured by the guide rope, they will ascend 3,000 feet, and remain till they have thoroughly surveyed and plotted all the area within sight. A practicable route



EXTERIOR OF THE CAR.

over the ice cliffs may be discovered, or they may find that the open water is narrow; in either case they will cross to the north with sled or boat, and proceed as before. If not they will try at some other point until, if necessary, they have ascended and mapped out all the northern edge of the attainable region.

But they are confident no insuperable cliffs or open water will be found. On the contrary, they have demonstrated to their own satisfaction just where ocean and land will be, and have published a map of their intended route. They will reach the northern point of Spitzbergen in July, proceed straight north to the pole, and coming exactly straight on (consequently going south from the pole) they will arrive on the inhabited coast of Alaska, or the opposite coast of Asia—in a few days! It is to be hoped they may. And really if the wind is favorable their estimate of two days at the farthest is not unreasonable, for from the last attainable point on the one side to the first on the other is but 1,800 miles or so; but once

ing from the most northern point reaches the interval is much less.

The unknown north seems to possess a terrible fascination for many minds, and the records made by daring men in trying to explore it are enough to give the ordinary reader a chill. It is certain that Norwegians and Icelanders sailed far up the west coast of Greenland over 800 years ago and soon had flourishing colonies there and in Spitzbergen. In 1492 the Zeno brothers, Venetians, went north of the most northern land settlements, and in 1497 John and Sebastian Cabot got as far north as 67 degrees before deciding that they could not sail around America by that way. The idea of a northwest passage to Asia was then taken up and pursued with great ardor for over three centuries. Expedition after expedition failed, crew after crew perished, but new men were always found eager to make the attempt.

In 1828 Sir Hugh Willoughby sailed for Nova Zembla, but he and all his men were lost. In 1850-51 Davis explored the strait that bears his name. Next Hendrik Hudson beat all previous records by sailing up to latitude 82 degrees, but on a subsequent expedition was lost. All the inlets of Hudson's bay were searched by Englishmen, who insisted that they had an opening to the Pacific, and the Russians, struggling as desperately from the west, but all failed and many perished. In 1820-23 Von Wrangell made his celebrated sledge expedition and reported "an open polar sea." This set all the explorers on a new tack.

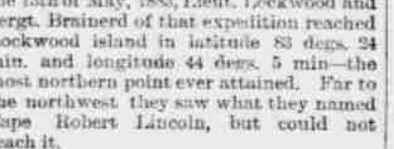
As late as 1748 the British parliament offered a reward of £20,000 to any one who should discover a passage westward from Hudson's bay.

After a dozen expeditions had failed Capt. Parry and Sir John Franklin took up the work of searching for the northwest passage. From 1818 to 1846 they and their numerous associates were the heroes of Arctic exploration, and Sir John and all his men became its martyrs. Capt. Parry invented the boat sledge, with which he reached 82 degrees 45 min., the most northern latitude attained by white men before 1858. While on Melville Island he established a theatre and newspaper to amuse his crews. The public story of Sir John Franklin and the many search expeditions on his account are familiar to the public.

Private and public expeditions of every kind multiplied till the whole northern coast of America was explored, and still new and more eager projectors came forward to seek the north pole. On May 18, 1891, Dr. Isaac I. Hayes and one companion, Herr Knorr, reached a point of land in latitude 81 degrees 55 min., and longitude 70 degrees 30 min., as far as yet, as far as the route is known, and water would support neither boat nor sledge. Yet Dr. Hayes insists that he saw stretching far away the open polar sea, and in it a mountain, "the most northern known land on the globe."

Many other expeditions got nearly as far north, and finally Capt. Charles Francis Hall, of the "American Arctic expedition," on Aug. 24, 1871, reached latitude 82 degrees 16 min.

The Greeley expedition was the last to excite general interest, and in at least one



INTERIOR OF THE CAR.

respect was the most successful; for on the 18th of May, 1881, Lieut. Lockwood and Sergt. Brainerd of that expedition reached Lockwood Island in latitude 83 degrees 24 min., and longitude 10 degrees 15 min., the most northern point yet attained. Far to the northwest they saw what they named Cape Robert Lincoln, but could not reach it.

Dr. Isaac Nansen, who crossed Greenland two years ago, also proposes to try the balloon scheme, but on a much smaller scale than that of the Frenchman.

He will go through Behring strait in June, thence westward to the most northern island his vessel can reach, and then proceed with sledges and boats, using a small attached balloon, only to rise a few hundred feet, and survey the region ahead of him. In August or September he expects to locate on the floating ice, and thinks at that season it will take him directly across the open sea and near the pole.

It is not easy to understand the reasoning on which he bases his hope, but he is a bold and scientific Norwegian, and his report will, no doubt, interest us if he lives. With the balloons and others the year 1892 bids fair to be a memorable one in Arctic explorations. J. H. BEADLE.

Of Importance to Engaged People.

"Lovers' stationery" has been introduced among romantic circles in the United States. The paper is of a delicate pink, and the watermark consists of two hearts pierced by an arrow. At the bottom of the last page is a round blot about the size of a quarter of a dollar—where the writer presses his finger, and a loving salute to the receiver, who is bound to kiss the same spot. A thin coat of aromatic gum covers the place devoted to osculation.

Released by Death.

The public has scarcely had time to forget the details of the shocking murder of Dr. A. E. Jones, of Cincinnati, when interest is revived by the death of his murderer, the colored man, Charles Blythe. He was, as will be remembered, sentenced to be hanged on the 20th of last July, but Governor Campbell commuted his sentence to imprisonment for life.

As often happens in the case of brutal men, though ever so cruel, as soon as he was imprisoned Blythe began to decline in strength, and within a few weeks after commutation he was an incurable consumptive. Within less than four months from the day set for his hanging his attenuated corpse was delivered to the medical men, as his wife in Richmond, Ky., was not able to have it shipped.

Ought to Be Used to It.

He had just kissed her for the first time. According to the census they had mutually taken of each other's love they had mutually broken in on each other in a few days! It is to be hoped they may. And really if the wind is favorable their estimate of two days at the farthest is not unreasonable, for from the last attainable point on the one side to the first on the other is but 1,800 miles or so; but once

WORKS MADNESS.

How Jealousy Acts Upon the Human Mind.

CASE OF SARAH ANN M'MULLEN.

She Throws Two Children from a Bridge Because She Hated the Mother of One of Them—David Greener's Fate—The Brinkerhoff Scandal.

Jealousy! There is a word to conjure with—a word to call up the active and malignant ghosts



SARAH ANN M'MULLEN.

[Reproduced from The Buffalo Express.]

of every evil thought or thing that ever brought anguish to the brain of a wronged or overcredulous human being.

Jealousy! Sometimes it culminates in murder; sometimes in scandalous litigation. Often it is causeless, but in the larger number of instances it is based upon the shameful foundation of detected wrongdoings.

The strangest and most shocking case of jealousy that has come to public notice in recent days is that of Sarah Ann M'Mullen, a girl 17 years of age, residing at Akron, N. Y. It seems that this young woman, whose name is now a household word, had conceived a wild, unreasoning and unreciprocated passion for her employer, a man of the name of Connors. This passion took the active and insane form of jealousy of Mrs. Connors, and to show her hatred of her unfeeling mistress the M'Mullen girl one day not long ago bequeathed to a treacherous bridge Mrs. Connors' daughter, Ella, and her little playmate, Della Brown, aged 6.

It is not known that she had any grudge against the Brown girl, who seems to have been the chance victim of a crazy woman's freak, but that as it was, Miss M'Mullen, after entering the children, to the central part of the trestle, threw them to the bed of the creek, seventy feet below.

She then returned to the village, bade good-by to her friends and going to another bridge jumped off with suicidal intent. Her contact with cold water evidently brought her to her senses.

At any rate, she called for help and was rescued unharmed. The Connors girl was killed by her terrible fall, but, remarkable to relate, the Brown child received no injury.

D. A. GREENER—CHARLES CLIFFORD. Jury save from shock. It is almost superfluous to add that Miss M'Mullen is now a prisoner charged with murder.

Equally tragic is the case reported from Kansas City. David A. Greener, a wealthy and well known stockman of that place who had figured of late in various sensational proceedings, chief among which was a divorce suit instituted by his wife.

One afternoon recently he went to the Hotel Andrews and entered the apartments occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clifford. Mrs. Clifford was alone at the time, and, as she declares, received insulting propositions from her visitor. While the two were engaged in excited conversation Mr. Clifford entered and attacked Greener. The latter ran into the hall, followed by the irate husband, who fired three shots at the fleeing stockman, all of which reached their mark, and from whose effects Mr. Greener soon afterward died.

The Cliffords have been held by a coroner's jury on a charge of murder, and it will remain for the trial to decide whether the killing was inspired by jealous wrath or was the culmination of a futile attempt at blackmail. Mrs. Clifford's story of the tragic affair, as told by her to a reporter for one of the Kansas City papers, has some dramatic touches about it. She claims that while waiting for her husband to read there was a knock at the door and she said "Come in." Mr. Greener, to whom she had been introduced by Mrs. Ball, the landlady, and whom she had met several times at the table, entered, and throwing



DAVID A. GREENER.

attention for "Jack" was a noted traveler, and had interested many. His owner was Mr. F. G. Moore, a stationmaster at Lewes, England, and after the dog had taken a few trips on the rail he became passionately fond of it, and would travel far, always returning to his master, however. All the railroad men knew him and gave him free passage, and Lady Brassey was so interested in him that she introduced him to the Prince and Princess of Wales and other notabilities. He possessed three "presentation" collars and a silver medal, and was a universal favorite with railroaders.

Wary of the World.

Snide seems to be temporarily epidemic in Europe. From St. Petersburg there comes a thrilling story of a professor of medicine who took poison in the very act of lecturing to his class; while in Paris the daily number of cases of self murder is said to range from twelve to sixteen. Nor is there anything more scientific explanation of the phenomenon of the sort in which the late Mr. Buckle took delight. In the spring Parisians who are tired of life mostly drown themselves in the Seine; in the autumn they prefer to asphyxiate themselves by means of charcoal fumes. That is all the statistics have to tell us.

What is the real cause of this alarming predisposition to self murder—whether it is due to religious doubts and difficulties, to compulsory military service, or to the wetness of the so-called summer of 1890 in Europe, a question which for the present remains unanswered.

A Great Invention.

Mrs. CHARLES CLIFFORD, his hat and overcoat on the lounge, stepped up close to her. "Why, Mr. Greener," she exclaimed, "whom do you wish to see, Mr. Clifford or me?" "I want to see you, and alone," she says he replied, and added, "I've been waiting to see you for some time."

"Go away," she told him, "for my husband may come in any minute."

"I don't care for your husband," he replied, "I am as big as you and him put together."

Suddenly there was a footstep in the hall outside and a hand tried the door knob.

Mrs. Clifford believed it was her 4-year-old boy, and was not unduly alarmed. She went to the door and looked out into the open hallway, and the next instant her husband burst in, and she said, "Is this the way you treat me when I am away from you?"

"Don't accuse me, Charley, before you hear it all," she answered. "This man came into my room and locked the door!"

before she had finished her explanation Greener had grappled with her husband, who was trying to draw a pistol, but the latter was too quick and fired a shot, when Greener unlocked the door and darted into the hall, closely followed by Clifford, pistol in hand. He fired twice more at the fleeing man, while being held by Bartender Fagin. Mrs. Clifford sank into a rocker, where she still sat when her husband returned, and then she explained to him how Greener came into the room.

"I was still talking to him," she said, "when a policeman came and Charley gave him his pistol and surrendered and was taken away. I don't know how bad that man is shot, but I hope he will die; he deserves it for acting toward me as he did. Why, I didn't know him at all, only as a boarder. Mrs. Ball introduced him to me in her room, and in the two weeks we have been here I met him only at meal time."

The scene at Greener's deathbed was a sorrowful one. By his side stood the wife from whom he had been estranged, who he made the following ante-mortem statement to the coroner:

"This was a blackmailing scheme. I drove up to the Hotel Andrews this afternoon with George Keck, of the Fish & Keck Commission company, and Fred Tainter. We went into the saloon and ordered some cocktails. Then I went upstairs into the hotel while the two men waited for me. I wanted to see Mrs. Ball, the proprietress of the house. She was not in, and I there saw Mrs. Clifford, wife of the man who shot me. I asked Mrs. Clifford where Mrs. Ball was, and she said she was out and asked me to come in and have a seat."

MRS. HENRIETTA BRINKERHOFF.

"I did so. We talked for a few minutes, and I then started to go away. When she insisted upon my staying I said, 'No; my time is up, and I must go.' Just then Clifford stepped into the open window, revolver in hand, and said, 'You must stay, throw up your hands! I said, 'No, I won't throw up my hands.' Clifford then fired the shot which struck me in the back, and fired four other shots. I think the whole thing was a blackmailing scheme planned by the M'Mullen girl one day not long ago bequeathed to a treacherous bridge Mrs. Connors' daughter, Ella, and her little playmate, Della Brown, aged 6."

It is not known that she had any grudge against the Brown girl, who seems to have been the chance victim of a crazy woman's freak, but that as it was, Miss M'Mullen, after entering the children, to the central part of the trestle, threw them to the bed of the creek, seventy feet below.

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At any rate, she called for help and was rescued unharmed. The Connors girl was killed by her terrible fall, but, remarkable to relate, the Brown child received no injury.

A Much Traveled Dog.

"Railway Jack" was only a dog. Yet his death the other day at the good old age—for a dog—of 15 years excited much



RAILWAY JACK.

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Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

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NOT CONSUMED.

A Tale from Arkansas of True but Timid Love.

During several seasons young Parks had been a constant visitor at the house of Alemelech Morrison. Sunday after Sunday the young fellow would come, and after sitting nearly all day stealing glances at Sookie, Alemelech's daughter, he would go home. He was so bashful that when the time came for his departure he would glide out the door, jump over the fence and run like a jack rabbit. Last Sunday he took his place as usual.

"Sam," said old Alemelech, "what's your daddy doing?"

"Makin' up a steer yoke, uh, huh, huh," said young Parks.

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